Agenda Item: 12-19 Request Approval of Certain Falls and Jordan State and Federal Stormwater Nutrient Accounting Tools and Baseline Loads

Explanation:

The Falls and Jordan Lake watershed stormwater rules for state & federal entities, 15A NCAC 2B .0281 and 15A NCAC 2B .0271, respectively, call on DWQ to submit a nutrient accounting framework to the EMC for approval. The framework includes a tool that will allow subject parties to account for loading from new and existing developed lands and loading changes due to BMP implementation. DWQ proposes to use the Falls Lake and Jordan Lake Stormwater Accounting Tool approved by the EMC in March 2011 for non-DOT state and federal entities and a modified version of the tool developed through a collaboration with NCDOT and North Carolina State University for use on NCDOT development.

As a part of the accounting framework, the Falls Lake watershed stormwater rule also requires the development of baseline nutrient loads for NCDOT roadways and industrial facilities using stormwater runoff nutrient load characterization data collected through the NPDES Research Program under NCS0000250 Permit Part II Section G. In accordance with these requirements, the NCDWQ and NCDOT developed an approach for calculating baseline nutrient loads for NCDOT in the Falls Lake watershed. The approach is based on existing data and models used to develop the Falls Lake watershed rules.

Recommendation:

Staff requests that the Commission approve the use of the Falls / Jordan Stormwater Accounting Tool for non-DOT state & federal entities and approve the NCDOT modified version of the tool for use by NCDOT in both the Falls and Jordan watersheds. Staff also request approval of the NCDOT baseline nutrient loads developed for the Falls Lake watershed.